

BARTON HILLS NEWS

A Quarterly Newsletter

July 2013

ACL Festival

By Melissa Hawthorne, President

Neighbors, with two weekends of ACL Festival this year, this message is a way of distributing information on schedule and other items. Again this year there will be No Parking Tow Away signs posted on roads closer to Zilker Park. The signs will be larger, placed earlier, and be more frequently placed. A map of where the proposed no parking locations, will be posted on the www.bartonhills.org website as soon as it is finalized. Some folks were pleased and some frustrated by the No Parking last year, but things have been altered for better placement and better text. Please keep in mind this is to allow for emergency vehicles to get through the neighborhood; while inconvenient, it may allow for an ambulance or fire truck to get to your neighbors.

Schedule Overview:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a. Load In Commences: | October 1, Monday |
| b. Festival Weekend | October 4-6, |
| Schedule: | Hours: 11 am – 10 pm daily |
| c. Roads Reopen, Park Opening | October 7-10 (scope pending) |
| d. Festival Weekend | October 11-13, |
| Schedule: | Hours: 11 am – 10 pm daily |

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NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, July 23rd 6 - 9PM

Join us at St. Mark's Church (corner of Barton Skyway and Barton Hills Drive).

All are welcome! Social Hour 6PM.

Pizza, salad, and Pasta from Rockin'

Tomato \$7.

Agenda

- 7:00 – Call to Order**
- 7:05 – Brief Announcements**
- 7:10 – Approval of the April 30th Minutes**
- 7:12 – Treasurer's Report**
Kerry Price
- 7:20 – Committee Reports**
 - **Neighborhood Watch**
John Luther
 - **Membership Outreach**
Sunny Luther
 - **Area Development**
Peter Hess
 - **Emergency Preparedness**
Susan Donaldson
 - **ANC Report**
Tom Nuckols
 - **Greenbelt Guardians**
Glee Ingram
 - **Barton Hills Park**
Kathleen Schneeman
- 8:00 – Helicopter – Temporary and Permanent**
- 8:30 – Other business brought to the floor by membership.**
- 9:00 – Adjourn**

JOIN BHNA OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

Schedule Overview continued:

- e. Load out ends: October 18
- f. Park Maintenance October 21-25

- *Neighborhood planning is underway, and includes maintaining the increase in officers added for neighborhood patrols in 2012. This also includes officers patrolling the Greenbelt.*
- *Enhancements to signage placements and advance signage set out.*
- *Maintains a dedicated call-in line for neighborhood inquiries and response to issues.*
- *Continues additional staging of trash/recycling pods throughout the key ingress/egress areas.*
- *Daily litter patrols throughout the neighborhood each morning.*

The call in number will also be posted to the www.bartonhills.org website, as well as through the barton hills yahoo group. Please help us by identifying vehicles parked in front of fire hydrants as well as any other safety issues. If there is a location that warrants no parking on one side of the street year round, this would be an opportunity to ask the City to assist as we'll have lots of eyes on our neighborhood.



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The 78704 Real Estate Report

By Ryan Rodenbeck

Sales numbers recently released by the Austin Board of Realtors show a continued upward trend in 78704. Average list prices for homes located west of Lamar (Area 7) saw a 12.8% increase over the same time last year, from \$472,000 to \$482,000. Sold prices increased 13.7% from \$421,000 to \$479,000. 20 properties sold after an average of 65 days on market in 2012 and in 2013 15 properties sold at an average of 16 days on market. That's a decrease of days on market of 75%, but with a 25% decrease in number of sold properties.

Houses listed from \$350,000 to \$399,000 took the longest to sell, at 50 days on market, presumably because homes listed in that price range were "fixer" properties.

Year to date, we are still doing better this year. Sold listings have increased nearly 7% (73 in 2012, 78 in 2013) with the sales volume increasing close to 12% (\$31M in 2012 to \$34.4M this year).

Across Lamar (Area 6), average list prices saw a 9.7% increase from May of last year to May of this year, from \$357,000 to \$391,000. Sold prices increased in this area from \$350,000 to \$392,000.

In May of 2012, 59 properties in Area 6 sold after an average of 38 days on the market. This May, that average dropped to 16 days, with 9 fewer properties sold. That's a decrease in days on market of nearly 60%, but with a 15% decrease in sold properties.

In Area 6, houses listed under \$200,000 sold the fastest, averaging 7 days on market.

Year to date, 2013 is still out performing 2012 in Area 6. 2012 year to date saw 170 properties sold with a volume of around \$56.8M. This year we've seen 220 properties sold with a volume of nearly \$82M. That's about a 30% increase in inventory sold at about a 40% increase in volume.

The bottom line is that this incredible real estate market that we have seen all year continues to grow strong. Although our economic factors in Austin would indicate that this upward trend will continue, there is concern that the inevitable rise in interest rates will slow our economy.

One thing is for sure, the days of record-low mortgages is over.

These statistics and most other areas in Austin can be found on our website at www.spyglassrealty.com under the Market Statistics tab on the menu.

Barton Hills Park Update

By Leigh Hopper Oberholzer

Before school let out, the Barton Hills Park playground committee gathered input from Barton Hills Elementary students to add to input previously gathered from the community. Guess which potential playground element gathered the most votes? An in-ground slide linking the upper and lower areas of the playground. **Whee!**

The playground committee has been generating and discussing a conceptual design for the playground, working from a model that respects the way children actually play and move through the area, and that will use natural and imaginative play elements, instead of standard, off-the-shelf playscape models. We currently have committee members working on a rough budget for the concept.

We hope to have discussions with the city this summer on the concept, and look forward to bringing our ideas to the neighborhood.



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In other Barton Hills Park news, you may notice folks spreading massive amounts of mulch before the end of June. This tree-protection measure is the very beginning of five major landscaping goals:

- a) tree protection via terracing, compost and mulch coverage in the North end of the park under the tree grove,
- b) irrigation installation for an upper sod field,
- c) field preparation and sod installation on the upper field area,
- d) trail realignment to provide more room for the new field and
- e) irrigation installation for the field area.

(Glee Ingram of Growing Designs graciously provided her design time pro bono and is now implementing the plan with the intent of having our terracing and mulching complete by the end of June.) Maybe not as much fun as an in-ground slide, but terracing and mulching are truly the foundation for a beautiful park that will endure for generations.

Barton Hills Community Park is now on Twitter. Follow @BartonHillsPark for the latest on the park development and other fun neighborhood happenings.



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The List-Serve is a Yahoo Group specifically for BHNA.

By Susan Donaldson, BHNA Emergency Preparedness Chairman

Most people know the list-serve as the source of multiple emails in their inbox, a place to put "want ads" to sell their unwanted items, or a means to connect lost pets with anxious owners. It is actually much more than that, but first you have to be a member. Membership is free with your paid \$10 yearly BHNA dues. Remember that dues are due on every Jan 1 and are for the calendar year. Dues paid any time before Jan 1 will be applied to that calendar year and due again Jan 1 the next year. They are not prorated. This is a limitation of our bookkeeping.

There are TWO types of list-serve memberships.

This is determined by how you respond to the membership invitation.

Email Members:

An email member joined but did not set up a Yahoo name & password. This means you may post messages to the group's email list but do not have access to the many list-serve web features.

Email only members see the following web page: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/barton_hills/.

Full Feature Member


This type of member will have a YAHOO account connected to your email address and will log into that Yahoo account to have full access to the group page. You will be able to view all past messages, search those messages, plus use all features discussed in sections 1-7. You will also be able to EDIT your membership, which allows you to CHANGE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS, change your screen name, change how you receive messages (receive all messages "real time" in your Inbox, receive only a daily digest [summary] or no messages at all) or even quit the list-serve. If you are an email member you may request the BHNA moderator (barton_hills-owner@yahoogroups.com) to make these changes to your accounts, however moderators may no longer change your email address. To change from an email member to a Full Featured member you will need a Yahoo ID & password. The following link explains how to do that:

http://help.yahoo.com/kb/index?page=content&y=PROD_GRPS&locale=en_US&id=SLN2056&impressions=false

The BHNA Group page contains several sections described below. Most capabilities are limited to full featured members. Email members are limited to posting emails only.

1. Messages

There are currently 26,600 messages in this groups starting back in 2001. They are all still there to be read & reviewed. You can search all past messages to look for that message about the cat sitter whose phone # you lost or the name of the landscaper who you might not want to hire. You would be amazed how easy it is to read messages on this page. In fact, I have discovered that NOT ALL messages arrive in your mailbox no matter what type of member you are,



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- 1504 Juliet
- 2021 Bluebonnet #107
- 1606 Hether
- 2305 Rundell
- 2110 Wright
- 1307 Kinney #155
- 2607 Trailside #2
- 3200 Westhill
- 1905 Frazier
- 2107 Rabb Rd.
- 906 Jessie

List-Serve continued from page 5

BUT they are all on this web page. I find reading the web page answers the question of “what was that email about or why was there no response”.

Posting a message can be done 3 ways:

- a) by sending a message to: barton_hills@yahoogroups.com
only from your email address that you used to join this group.
- b) by replying to a post (using your joined email address).
Be careful when doing this.....look at the TO field to be sure you know who will be receiving your response. If you reply directly to the sender, your response will not be seen by the group. Conversely, if you want your response seen only by the sender, make sure Barton_Hills@Yahoogroups.com is not in the TO field.
- c) directly on this web page if you are a full featured member: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/barton_hills/

WANTED!
NEWSLETTER
EDITOR...
Its fun, join in, and
Be creative...

One more feature applicable to ALL MEMBERS: the list-serve moderators have the ability to send out SPECIAL NOTICE messages. This even goes to members who request no messages. This is seldom used but can be used in an emergency situation. Remember that even in an emergency, you only receive this message when you look at your email.

List-Serve continued on Page 10



**Recently sold
in
Barton Hills!**



2508 Spring Creek Dr



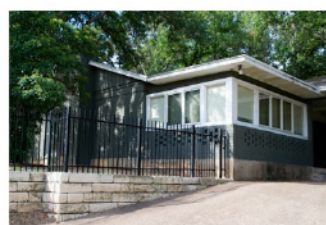
1724 Glencliff Dr



2804 Rae Dell Ave

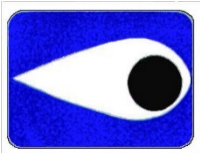


2302 Farnswood Cir



2118 Barton Hills Dr

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Neighborhood Watch

By John Luther

I am very happy to report that there has been very little criminal activity in Barton Hills over the last three months. That does not mean there has been zero criminal activity and any crime at all is unacceptable. However, BH residents are more alert than ever and are using the 911 system more often. That, combined with the roving N/W Patrols for several hours each week, makes Barton Hills a risky place to practice the criminal trade. For this, I want to thank each and every BH resident for the part you play in keeping our neighborhood safe and secure. Stay safe and be sure to wave to the Patrol Volunteers.

Although this may seem too far away to warrant much consideration, ACL is coming. Not only is it coming, it is coming twice in October. Larger crowds and more event days means we have had to be involved in the neighborhood traffic planning process for many weeks already. Melissa Hawthorne, our fearless BHNA

President, has taken the lead and has been working with city and ACL planners for months to ensure Barton Hills receives maximum traffic control during these weekends. The agreements and plans in place do look excellent at this point. BHNA Neighborhood Watch Patrol has been and will be an

Continued on Page 8

Neighborhood Watch Needs YOU!

Volunteer one hour of time per week.
You can be a part of the solution. Contact
our King of the Watch John Luther at

jluther@austin.rr.com



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Neighborhood Watch continued from Page 7

important part of maintaining neighborhood safety during the two ACL weekends.

There will be No Parking/Towing zones located on one side of several streets intersecting Barton Hills Drive to allow for emergency vehicle access. Also, APD will be patrolling in the neighborhood during those same hours to enforce traffic laws.

We want to be good neighborhood hosts and we will expect our visitors to be good neighborhood guests. N/W Patrol will be on the streets during the hours before and after the event. Hopefully, we can lessen the parking crisis we have experienced each year by reminding drivers not to park too close to corners, stop signs and fire hydrants. After the event BHNA N/W Patrols will be out assisting lost folks with directions and cold water. Hopefully everyone will go home happy in the end.



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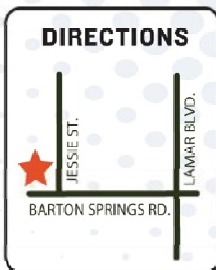
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Barton Hills News

The Barton Hills Neighborhood Association newsletter is published quarterly and supported by advertisers. It's distributed to homes in the Barton Hills neighborhood of Austin, Texas. For more about membership and neighborhood affairs, contact the appropriate person below.

2013 Executive Committee

President

Melissa Hawthorne
mwh@austin.rr.com

Vice President

Rebecca Gallogly
becca.gallogly@gmail.com

Secretary

David Poisson
dpoisson@swbell.net

Community Partnership Coordinator

Angel Rodenbeck
angel@spyglassrealty.com

Newsletter Editor

Position Available

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kpriceatx@gmail.com

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Tom Nuckols
tnuckols@austin.rr.com

Committee Chairs

Committee on Area Development

Peter Hess
phess@austin.utexas.edu

Greenbelt Guardians

Glee Ingram
gleeful@earthlink.net

Neighborhood Watch

John Luther
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Emergency Preparedness

Susan Donaldson
skdon@mindspring.com

Neighborhood Outreach

Sunny Luther
ssluther@austin.rr.com

Barton Hills Community Park

Kathleen Schneeman
kathleen.schneeman@gmail.com

www.bartonhills.org

List-Serve continued from page 6

2. Attachments: Attachments to messages can be viewed, copied and deleted.

3. Files: Informational files created by users are posted here to be "filed" for later use. These include such things as BH maps, City ordinances, forms & brochures.

4. Photos: Similar to attachments, user photos can be placed here. Lost & found animals, items for sale, photos of the greenbelt and sunset pics are popular.

5. Links. Web address to popular web pages are listed. These include the Capitol Metro bus schedule, Hazardous Waste Disposal Information, BHNA web page link, & other various (member uploaded) information.

6. Polls: Currently there are no active polls but members may post polls and these will be sent to members.

7. Calendar: BHNA currently does not use this but it could be used to list quarterly meetings, parades, or picnics. Members may post and reminders will be sent out to all members.

The List-Serve (BHNA Yahoo Group page) is a useful source of information and this article with additional information will be available at BHNA's Home Page (which is different than the list-serve & also very informative) at <http://bartonhills.org/2013/06/listserve-tips/>

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BHNA listserv: One of your membership benefits

When you join the Barton Hills Neighborhood Association, you can join the BHNA Yahoo! group, also known as the listserv. The listserv lets you keep up with your neighbors from the comfort of your computer. Posts cover everything from lost-and-found pets to crime stats and local events. See page 12 for the BHNA membership form.

To Our Parade Sponsors

Thank You!

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B&B Muffler and Automotive Service Center

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Giovanni's Pizza Stand * *Hawthorne Chiropractic*

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and a special thank you to
Our Parade Queen
Sunny Luther

**GREENBELT
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Our next workday is Saturday,
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Check out our Photo Gallery at
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Barton Hills Neighborhood Association
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THE LATEST ISSUE OF BARTON HILLS NEWS

2013 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Fill out this form to join or renew your membership in the Barton Hills Neighborhood Association. Annual dues are \$10 per household, payable when you join (for a new membership) or every January (for renewal).

Your Name: _____

Other 18+ members of your household: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Sign Me Up! I/we wish to receive email from the BHNA listserv.

I am interested in getting more involved in neighborhood activities. Please contact me.

Please send this form along with your annual dues to:

Barton Hills Neighborhood Association, PO Box 41206, Austin, TX 78704

Make checks payable to BHNA.

You can pay dues online through PayPal at www.bartonhills.org/membership.html.

(PayPal service fee of \$1 will be added to your total.)